



April 11, 2015

Weekly Report

Highlight of Departmental Activities

The Weekly Report showcases the activities and accomplishments of the many Departments within Rutherford County Government. Click on the directory lists, headings and text in blue to be linked to more information.

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Agriculture/Cooperative Ext.

Family and Consumer Sciences:

- Taught Living Healthy with Diabetes
- Chaired Community Health Council meeting
- Taught Better Food Better Health
- Conducted site visits for health programs

Pesticide Disposal Day



Who: Farmers, Gardeners, and Homeowners
 What: Any pesticides (insecticides, herbicides, fungicides, etc.)
 When: Wednesday, April 15, 2015
 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. - ONE DAY ONLY!
 Where: Rutherford Extension Center
 193 Callahan-Koon Road
 Spindale, NC 28160
 Contact: Jan McGuinn
 828/287-6010
 Provisions: Register with Cooperative Extension Service. No unlabeled products will be accepted. Other restrictions may apply. Check with local Solid Waste Department for acceptability of other hazardous wastes.

Airport

The Airport sold 507.0 gallons of 100LL and 898.0 gallons of Jet A. On a daily basis, the Airport is visited by all types of aircraft.

Pictured below are a couple of aircraft that came by to visit last week. (Is it a bird or is it a plane?)



Board of Elections

After a wonderful Easter holiday, the elections staff continued work on scanning records and the GIS audit of registration addresses. Preparations have begun for our office hosting a “Mock Election” for the State Board to test the new draft procedures for the implementation of verifying ID at the polling place and One-stop locations. We were selected as one of the three locations across the state to host this test.

Clerk to the Board

The County Commissioners met on Monday as Airport Authority and then held their regular County Commissioners’ meeting at 6:00 p.m. that same evening. On Tuesday evening, the Commissioners met with the Board of Education at the School Administrative Offices. Wednesday, Chairman King and Commissioner Benfield attended a School of Government Workshop, *The County Board’s Role in K-12 Public Education*, at the Arboretum in Asheville along with County Manager Steve Garrison. Toward the end of the work week, the Chairman and Vice Chairman had meetings, including the County Manager and County Attorney.

County Manager

The County Manager was involved with the Commissioners preparing for the Board of Commissioners’ Meeting which was held this past Monday evening. The manager enjoyed more tours through several county offices, including Social Services with Director John Carroll. Midweek, the Manager attended a workshop in Asheville regarding the *County Board’s Role in K-12 Public Education*. On Wednesday, he traveled to Chapel Hill and attended *Evaluating Managers and Board Performance* at the School of Government. The



week continued with additional duties, consisting of numerous calls, interoffice meetings, conference calls, public relations, advising, preparation for various responsibilities and meeting with citizens.

Economic Development

This week, the Economic Development Department responded to a new industrial prospect, followed-up with multiple industrial recruitment and expansion prospects, participated in the EDAC Meeting in Asheville, and attended the RHI Legacy Lunch and Grant Session. Economic Development staff continues to be busy reaching out to industry representatives to meet grant reporting deadlines, preparing for the upcoming EDC Board meeting, contacting existing industry to arrange BR&E visits, and updating the contacts database. This week's schedule also included an existing industry visit at Ultimate Textile, Inc.

Finance

The Director continues to work on compiling the departmental budget requests. The Finance Office processed accounts payable and has begun working on payroll for the upcoming week.

Fire Marshal/Emergency Management

Fire Marshal and staff:

- conducted four origin and cause fire investigations
- responded to a missing person search in which the subject returned home
- attended the Commissioners meeting
- attended emergency management training and training on programming the 800Mhz radios
- began work on fire service district budgets
- completed several Emergency Management Performance Grant activities
- assisted fire departments with response to calls

Human Resources

The HR Director held meetings to discuss personnel issues, exit interviews, and retirements. Welcome new hires:

- Chasity McPeters (DSS)
- Genevieve Helms (p/t TDA)
- Sharon Fieber (p/t TDA)
- Virginia Wheeler (DSS)

The Director held several meetings with various department heads, met with Becky Veazy of the MAPS Group and conducted interviews for TDA. Current vacancies are:

- Part-time Transit
- EMS.

Apply at Rutherfordcountync.gov or 289 North Main Street.

Please be watching for email blasts for Relay for Life (for further info, see pages 9 - 11).

The **Annual County Employee Blood Drive** is scheduled for May 6 from 11:00 am-3:30 pm. Please contact the Human Resources Department to sign up: 828-287-6145.



EVERY PINT OF BLOOD CAN SAVE UP TO THREE LIVES! REMEMBER, THE LIFE YOU SAVE MAY BE YOUR OWN OR THAT OF A LOVED ONE.

Library

Library Director:

April traveled to the Polk County Library to meet with the Polk library director and a representative from the State Library. In addition, April worked with Kenneth Odom, IT Librarian, to compile an IT wish list for the new Southeastern Library. On Tuesday, April again met with the State Library Representative to discuss year long plans and state funding. The rest of the week, April focused on preparing materials for the quarterly Library Board of Trustees meeting and compiling monthly usage reports from all the libraries.

Circulation Manager:

On Tuesday, April 7th, Stephanie Long attended the Emergency Preparedness and Response Summit at the Pack Memorial Library in Asheville. This workshop focused on ways that public libraries can partner with local emergency planners to build greater community resilience in the event of a disaster. Lyn Triplett, Disaster Preparedness Coordinator for the Cultural Resources Emergency Support Team (CREST), discussed how CREST can help libraries salvage their materials after a flood, fire, or even insect infestation. Dan Wilson, Coordinator of the National Network of Libraries of Medicine (NN/LM) Emergency Preparedness & Response Initiative, shared tools and strategies for improving library readiness.

IT Librarian:

The computer classes have started off with a bang! The first Computer Basics class was held on Tuesday to a packed house and all the participants were pleased with the information presented. All of the afternoon sessions and a couple of the morning sessions for the remaining three classes are already full (a few classes even have a waiting list). Given the overwhelming response, we are considering adding at least one more session of each class to the schedule to meet the demand.



Computer Training will be offered on the following schedule:

Computer Basics—April 9th, 10 am

Internet Basics—April 14th, 3 pm & April 16th, 10 am

Email Basics—April 21st, 3 pm & April 23rd, 10 am

Job Searching Online—April 28th, 3 pm & April 30th, 10 am

There are seven seats for each class. All computer training is currently offered only at the Rutherford County Library at 255 Callahan-Koon Road in Spindale (next to the Health Department). For more information, contact the library at 287-6115.

Work on the redesigned library web site is almost complete. The new site will go live by Friday, April 17th.

Haynes Branch: The Haynes staff presented an outreach program for the seniors at State Line Baptist on best loved summer reads. Staff also proctored a test for a Liberty University student.

Mountains Branch:

During the week, Angie Turner supervised a student from Polk County High School in alphabetizing DVD's for a community service project. Angie also participated in a webinar for, "The Present and Future of E-Books" and attended a Friends of the Library meeting. Plans for National Library Week and Earth Day were discussed at the Friends meeting.

Revenue Department

The Revenue Department is working 5107 July motor vehicle renewals and handled 36 VTS assists. The office answered 434 phone calls and assisted 249 customers. We completed 2 plat reviews, 1 pre-permit and answered 17 Data Requests. Appraisers completed 256 field reviews. GIS created five new maps and one new data layers. The GIS website had 150,053 hits and 102,511 successful searches. E911 addressing assigned 5 new addresses and updated 36 addresses with new owner information. Part-time maintenance workers completed maintenance on six road signs. Fifteen appeals were received and 20 listing letters were mailed out. The PUV program assisted four program members. Staff processed two exclusions/deferments. We had three refunds, two releases and four discoveries. Electronic payments consisted of 22 by credit card, 45 by website and 4 over the phone. Collection action consisted four newspaper items. Staff completed 17 gross receipts/occupancy taxes and 10 bankruptcy issues. In person, taxpayers at the counter brought in 204 tax payments. Eighteen new deeds were certified for recording purposes.

Senior Center

On Thursday, April 2, the Senior Center hosted the Rutherford County Senior Games 2015 Opening Ceremony. Thomas Jefferson Classical Academy sophomore cheerleader, Bryanna Melaugh, led the kickoff cheer, and Rutherford County Manager Steve Garrison was our featured speaker (**pictured below**). This year's games have 99 participants in sporting events and 53 in arts events, including 32 first time participants. The sporting events will continue through April 17th. In addition to the games this week, we held our last class for "Living Healthy with Diabetes". Square Dance classes have started back on Thursdays at 4:00 p.m. Lastly, tax preparation is provided at the Center by the AARP Foundation Tax Aide Program. This is a free tax preparation service for low to moderate income individuals with special attention to those 60 and over. The trained volunteers will be available, by appointment only, on Thursdays and Fridays, through April 10th.

Upcoming:

Zumba class at 5:30 p.m. on April 13, 20, and 27th.



Social Services

Work continues toward the implementation of the Northwoods Case Management System for social work services. Staff has been very busy over the past two weeks scanning records into the document management system. The first round of iPads have been distributed to staff in preparation for training this week. However, the training had to be moved to next week due to back end issues on the vendor's part. We have been very fortunate during implementation to have encountered few barriers. The iPads will allow workers to connect with the system while in the field, enter information directly into the system, and print needed documents. Income Maintenance management continues to be proactive during the implementation of Medicaid into the NC FAST System. Staff was able to meet their March 31 deadline and did not have to have cases automatically extended by the state. On Tuesday of this week, the DSS Director, Social Work Program Manager, and the Agency Attorney attended the annual DSS Director and DSS Attorney conferences at the School of Government at UNC-CH. Topics covered included Restoration of Competency in Guardianship Cases, Employee Grievance Procedures, Health Care Consent, End of Life Decision Making, and Accessing Records in Financial Exploitation Cases. Child Care Subsidy staff attended the weekly SEEK conference call this week. Subsidized Early Education for Kids was slated to be the new attendance reporting and payment



**HAVE YOU EVER THOUGHT ABOUT OPENING YOUR HEART AND HOME TO
A CHILD WHO NEEDS TEMPORARY OR PERMANENT CARE?**



**JOIN US FOR A "LUNCH AND LEARN" TO BECOME
FAMILIARIZED WITH THE PROCESS TO BECOME A
FOSTER OR ADOPTIVE PARENT**

APRIL 14TH 11:30-12:30

**@ THE COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING AUDITORIUM
*BRING YOUR LUNCH AND WE'LL PROVIDE
DRINKS AND DESSERT.**

**RSVP: PLEASE CONTACT ANGELA BLACK
828-287-6295 OR
angela.black@rutherfordcountync.gov**

delivery system for the Subsidized Child Care Program in North Carolina. Rutherford County DSS was serving as a pilot, which involved several child care centers. It was announced earlier this week that development of the program will be stopped later this month. April is Child Abuse Prevention Month. Plans are being made to plant a Pinwheel Garden at the courthouse. The blue and silver pinwheel is the symbol of child abuse prevention, representing community efforts to provide children with the safe, stable, nurturing relationships they need for healthy development. Our ability to receive the materials needed for the garden has been delayed due to a dock workers strike at the port of Los Angeles in February. It may be May before these are received. Even if there is a delay, we will plant our garden to promote awareness of child abuse and neglect, and to remind the community that child abuse and neglect is not just DSS or Law Enforcement business, but everyone's business.

Solid Waste

The solid waste department has had a very busy week. The solid waste department numbers are below:

Customers served 338

Loads hauled from convenience centers 69

Loads shipped to Lenoir 28

Recycling loads 2

Tire customers 20

The Solid Waste Director attended the emergency management class at ICC. Solid Waste employees continue to perform everyday job duties. The shop employees continue to perform preventive maintenance on equipment and trucks. We are still in the process of installing new signs at convenience centers (**pictured below**). Internal staff continues to work on presentations and grants for the upcoming events.

The Solid Waste Code Enforcement Officer report is as follows:

Open cases 7

Closed cases 0

Convenience center cases 2

Non-convenience center cases 5

Pictures taken 0

Cameras out on site 1

Community service workers 6

Community service reports 1



Soil & Water

The Admin/Education Specialist prepared the agenda and information folders for the District Board Meeting, participated in a Cost Share Program Strategy Plan and Spot Check teleconference and worked on an Earth Day presentation for Chimney Rock Stewardship Day. Also, worked on grant reports and the quarterly Technical Assistance reimbursement report. The Ag Cost Share Technician worked to get Agricultural Cost Share applications finalized, processed a request for payment, and answered watershed questions for insurance purposes. District Staff attended the monthly District Board Meeting.

Transportation Services

Emergency Medical Services:

EMS participated in a career day for 65 students at TLC daycare and also had a student observer this week on the ambulance. Staff met with the new billing company, EBS, and also held a monthly staff meeting with all administrative personnel. Staff attended the RHI Legacy Foundation luncheon and began the process of applying for a grant for a new quick response vehicle to be used for a community paramedic program.

TYPE	CURRENT WEEK	WEEKLY AVG
Emergency Calls	180	168
Convalescent Calls	59	47

Transit Department:

Transit participated in the county's Comprehensive Transportation Plan meeting to discuss both public transportation needs, as well as, emergency services and airport related projects. Director also attended the Commissioners' meeting and an Airport Authority meeting this week. Staff also participated in a roundtable discussion regarding a Winter Storm exercise with other public safety entities. The numbers below are slightly down this week due to being closed for Good Friday.

TYPE	CURRENT WEEK	WEEKLY AVG
Total Miles	8,254	9,566
# of Local Trips	874	881
# of Out of County Trips	67	66
# Unduplicated Passengers	207	238
Total Revenue	\$10,761	\$14,549

Veterans Services

Mail In	38
Fax	50
Mail Out	36
Phone Calls In/Out	85
Veteran Contacts	211

County Commissioners

Bryan A. King, Chairman **Michael Benfield**
Alan Toney, Vice Chairman **Eddie Holland**

Steve Garrison, County Manager
Carl Classen, Interim County Manager
Hazel S. Haynes, Clerk to the Board

Follow us online!

www.rutherfordcountync.gov



Upcoming Events.....

If you would like to assist with any of these events, please print the Sign-up Sheet on page 11, sign and return to Jeanette Bosgra, Finance Department or call 828-287-6211.

SPAGHETTI SUPPER/GOSPEL SINGING

Date: Saturday, **April 11, 2015**
Place: Gray's Creek Baptist Church
Contact: Brandy Greene Morris 828-287-6329

SHOOTING FOR A CURE

Handgun Competition
Shotgun Trap Games



Date: Saturday, **April 18, 2015**
Time: 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Place: Old Hickory Rifle and Pistol Club
Gun Club Road, Bostic, NC 28018
Cost: \$5 per shoot
Beginners welcome. Bring your own shotgun, pistol and ammo. Shotgun and pistol ammo will be available for purchase. Hotdogs and hamburgers will be for sale.
Sponsored by: Rutherford Co. Sheriff's Office, Butler's Jewelry and Loan, Old Hickory Rifle & Pistol Club
All proceeds are to benefit **RELAY FOR LIFE**. Come and support a worthy cause!

SPRING PLANT SALE

Transform your landscape and gardens with vibrant colors and fresh foliage!

Date: Order deadline - Thursday, **April 23, 2015**
Place: County Annex
Pick up Date: Friday, **May 1, 2015**
Time: 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.
Go to Website for Plant Order Form: [http://rutherfordcountync.gov/fileUploads/files/2015%20Spring%20Relay%20Plant%20Sale%20Order%20Form\(1\).pdf](http://rutherfordcountync.gov/fileUploads/files/2015%20Spring%20Relay%20Plant%20Sale%20Order%20Form(1).pdf)

MAYFEST CUPCAKE BOOTH

Celebrating with a family friendly street festival!

Date: Saturday, **May 2, 2015**
Time: Beginning at 9:00 a.m.
Place: Downtown Rutherfordton



WHOOOO loves Baseball? We DO!
We think the best way to enjoy the
first game of the season is to come
out and enjoy it with a giving heart!



Purchase your tickets for \$8 and know that part of that will help in the fight to end cancer.

Opening game is May 26, 2015

Raffle tickets available to purchase at the game to participate in 50/50 raffle money giveaway!

For more Information or to purchase tickets contact:

Alma at 828-287-6125 or 828-980-1472

Or Brandy Morris at 828-287-6203

DRESS DOWN FRIDAYS

Give \$30 and reward yourself with dressing down on Fridays!

April to June 2015

Call Brooke Watson for further details at 828-287-6061.

RELAY FOR LIFE COMMUNITY EVENT

Date: Friday, **June 5, 2015**

Time: 6:00 p.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Place: Forest City Parks and Recreation

RELAY FOR LIFE Tee shirts available.

Tee shirts are white with purple design.

All Orders must be in to Finance by April 24, 2015

Call Jeanette Bosgra to place order at 828-287-6211.

Pay now (cash or check to ACS) or pay on delivery

Sizes: Youth S- L \$10.00 Adult S- XL \$10.00 / 2X - 6X \$12.00

Don't miss out!

**Participate in a Relay for Life event,
Sign-up Sheet on page 11.**

Relay Volunteer Sign Up Sheet



Spaghetti Supper/Gospel Singing, Saturday, April 11th

1

2

3

4

Shoot for A Cure, Saturday, April 18th

1

2

3

4

Mayfest, Saturday, May 2nd

1

2

3

4

Relay for Life Community Event

1

2

3

4